

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1           1. (Previously presented) A spinneret for spinning  
2 thermoplastics comprising a central polymer melt inlet passage, a  
3 filter arrangement comprising of a plurality of filter disks of  
4 different filter fineness which are fixedly bonded together by cold  
5 pressing, a spinneret plate and a housing which closely surrounds  
6 and receives the filter arrangement and the spinneret plate, said  
7 filter arrangement being free from a sealing enclosure and com-  
8 prised of a material with a higher thermal expansion coefficient  
9 than that of the material from which the housing surrounding it is  
10 fabricated so that a press-fit seal able to sustain pressure of a  
11 polymer melt is formed directly between said filter arrangement and  
12 said housing.

2. (Canceled)

1           3. (Previously presented) A spinneret for spinning of  
2 thermoplastics comprising a central polymer inlet passage, a filter  
3 arrangement consisting of a plurality of filter disks of different  
4 filter fineness which are fixedly bonded together by cold pressing  
5 with one another, a spinneret plate and a housing closely surround-  
6 ing and receiving the filter arrangement and the spinneret plate,  
7 said filter arrangement being free from any sealing enclosure, said  
8 filter arrangement and said spinneret plate being comprised of  
9 materials with a higher thermal expansion coefficient than the  
10 material from which the housing surrounding them is fabricated so  
11 that press-fit seals able to sustain pressure of a polymer melt are

12      formed directly between said filter disks and said housing and  
13      between said spinneret plate and said housing.

1                    4. (Currently Amended) The spinneret according to claim  
2      1 ~~claim 2~~, or claim 3 wherein the spinneret plate and the filter  
3      arrangement are composed of austenitic steel selected from steel  
4      Nos. 1.4301, 1.4541 and 1.4580 with a relatively high thermal  
5      expansion coefficient and the housing is fabricated from steel No.  
6      1.4057.

1                    5. (Currently Amended) The spinneret according to claim  
2      1 ~~claim 2~~ or claim 3 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the dimen-  
3      sioning is so selected that the fit between the outer diameter of  
4      the spinneret plate and the filter arrangement and a bore in the  
5      surrounding housing provides a slight play fit at room temperature  
6      which is transformed at operating temperatures based upon the  
7      different expansions of the parts, into a self-sealing radial press  
8      fit.

1                    6. (Currently Amended) The spinneret according to claim  
2      1 ~~claim 2~~ or claim 3 wherein the spinneret plate has a lower half  
3      formed with a thread directly screwed into the housing and forming  
4      a stop in the housing such that a spinning orifice pattern of the  
5      spinneret plate always has the same orientation.

1                   7. (Currently Amended)   The spinneret according to claim  
2   1 ~~claim 2~~ or claim 3 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the housing  
3   ~~(1)~~ has at its lower end a projecting collar which has at least  
4   three grooves for receiving a tool for screwing the spinning system  
5   in and out and ~~in that~~ the spinneret plate ~~(3)~~ is thereby protected  
6   against detrimental contact during handling.